VZCZCXRO2646 RR RUEHDE RUEHDIR DE RUEHDO #0625 2451356 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 011356Z SEP 08 FM AMEMBASSY DOHA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8184 INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS DOHA 000625

SIPDIS

FOR U/S JIM GLASSMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: PREL KPAO QA

SUBJECT: DOHA PRESS CONVEYS U/S GLASSMAN'S MESSAGE POSITIVELY Key Points:

- All Qatari newspapers provided prominent, accurate coverage of a press conference held on August 25 by U/S for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Jim Glassman.
- -- All papers focused on the Undersecretary's statements regarding

Qatar's strategic alliance with the United States in the war against terrorism and Qatar's role in combating extremism by promoting dialogue.

Headlines and representative quotes follow. Arabic Dailies

11. Al Raya: The "War of Ideas" Man in the U.S. Administration in a Press Conference:

Glassman Praises Qatar's Dialogue Initiatives

- -- We Need a Unified Position Between the United States and the Countries in the Region Against Extremism
- -- Washington is Not Appreciated Enough for its Assistance to the Palestinians

"Glassman, as the Undersecretary of Public Diplomacy, believes that the war on terrorism will not be solved only militarily but also through dialogue. Glassman added that terrorism is a danger to this region, not just to the United States.

Al Watan:

- -- The American Undersecretary for Public Diplomacy Denies His Country's Intention to Go Back to the Cold War Era
- -- Glassman: Qatar's Educational Advancement is Qualitative and Doha Participates in Bringing Ideas Closer Together

Ouote: "Glassman stated that Qatar and the United States are together on the war on terrorism, noting Qatar's efforts to bring ideas closer together by hosting conferences on interfaith dialogue and the U.S.-Islamic World dialogue."

Al Arab:

- America Praises Qatar's Role in Fighting Terrorism
- Glassman Praises Qatar's U.S.-Islamic World Forum
- Glassman: Doha is a strategic Ally to Washington in the War Against Terrorism

"Glassman noted that Education City is an important project that will help future Qatari generations. Glassman added that this city will teach the coming generations balanced and positive values.

14. Al Sharq: The American Undersecretary Lauds Qatar's Efforts for International Dialogue.

"Glassman visited Education City and met with the Northwestern University executives. Glassman added that Northwestern will play a leading role in teaching communication and media in the region.'

English Dailies

15. Gulf Times: U.S. Working for Peace Between Israel, Palestinians

Quote: "We have spent \$500mn for Palestine this year and are

working diligently to realise peace between Israel and Palestine with a vision of seeing the two states live side by side peacefully."

16. The Peninsula: U.S. Official Lauds Qatar's Education Drive. Quote: "The modern forward looking approach to education is something that I am very happy about because we live in an era in which the technology and the knowledge industry are going to become the most in the future. It is not just going to be resources. It's smart that you are paying attention to that."

17. Qatar Tribune: U.S. Official Lauds Qatar for War Against

Terror

Quote: "Addressing a press conference here on Monday, Glassman welcomed the efforts being made by Qatar and the U.S. for bringing the Arab world closer to American ideologies by hosting a number of conferences such as the interfaith dialogue conference, American-Islamic dialogue, and meets on democracy." LEBARON